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WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1 9 4 0.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WESTHOUGHTON.

February 1942.

Public Health Department,
Market Street,
WESTHOUGHTON.

February 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Westhoughton Urban District Council.

In the absence of Dr. W. H. Leigh who retiredon January 31st 1941, I beg to submit the Annual Report upon the Health of the District for the year 1940.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, outlined in Circular No.2314, dated 26th March, 1941, This report is curtailed to a minimum and the less important matters will be preserved and dealt with in a comprehensive report at the conclusion of the War.

AREA OF THE DISTRICT - 5,560 acres.
CENSUS POPULATION, 1931 - 16,018.
ESTIMATED POPULATION 1940 - 14,260.
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES AT END OF YEAR - 4,447.

Laws.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate	196	109	87		
	Illegitimate	7	2	5		
	Total	203	111	92	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1940	14.2
Stillbirths		12	8	4	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births	55
Deaths		181	92	89	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population	12.6

Deaths from puerperal causes

	Deaths	Deathrate per 1,000 total (live&still) births.
Puerperal & post-abortive sepsis	1	4.65
Other maternal causes	nil	nil
Total	1	4.65

Death rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	44
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	40
Illegitimate infants per,1,000 illegitimate live births	166

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	18
" " Measles " "	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	3

Population for Birth-rate & Death-rate 14,260

	Per 1,000 of estimated population				
	Live birthrate	Crude deathrate	Deathrate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Deathrate from Cancer	Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
Mean of 5 yrs. 1935-1939	13.7	12.7	0.24	1.34	47
1939	14.8	15.4	0.13	1.55	45
1940	14.2	12.6	0.28	1.26	44
Increase or decrease in 1940 on 5 yrs' average 1935-1939.	+ 0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.04	-0.08	- 3
Previous year	- 0.6	- 2.8	+ 0.15	-0.29	- 1

	Maternal Mortality rate	
	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total (live & still) births
Mean of 5 years 1935-1939	4.65	4.39
1939	4.50	4.21
1940	4.92	4.65
Increase or decrease in 1940 on 5 years' average 1935-1939.	+ 0.27	+ 0.26
Previous year	+ 0.42	+ 0.44

WATER SUPPLY. The water from the Bolton supply was maintained in a satisfactory manner. All houses in the district now have piped supply of water.

DRAINAGE. There have been no important extensions or alterations in the general scheme.

HOUSING. Number of New Houses Erected during the Year;-

(1)	By the Local Authority	Nil.
(11)	By other bodies or persons	22

Sanitary Inspections (including housing) totalled 2,083 and 147 defects or nuisances were abated out of the 169 discovered.

FOOD INSPECTION. This work has been carried out continuously during the year - particular attention being given to milk supplies - 175 samples were taken, 154 being submitted for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria:- 21 cases were notified compared with 61 in 1939. The disease was of a serious type and accounted for 2 deaths. The usual Public Health precautions were taken in collaboration with the School Medical Officer.

Immunisation: was arranged free of cost, and the treatment was carried out by the Patient's own Doctor. Little advantage has been taken of the scheme, and it would appear essential to bring the importance of this treatment to the notice of the public by every available means. Three cases in all availed themselves of these facilities.

Scarlet Fever: 28 cases of this disease, which was of a mild type, were notified. There were no deaths.

CONCLUSION.

During the year excellent work was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. In addition to the routine inspection, much time was spent on duties in connection with the Civil Defence-Casualty Service.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of death during the year, 1940.

Registrar General's Return.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES	FEMALES
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	1	1
Influenza	2	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	3	1
Other Tuberculosis	-	1
Cancer	11	7
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	11	10
Heart Disease	19	25
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	6
Bronchitis	8	4
Pneumonia	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	1
do (2 years and over)	-	-
Appendicitis	-	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-
Other Liver Diseases	-	-
Other Digestive Diseases	5	4
Nephritis	1	2
Puerperal Sepsis	-	1
Chronic debility, Premature Birth etc.,	1	3
Suicide	2	-
Other Violence & Road Traffic Accidents	3	-
Other defined diseases	19	15
	92	89

TUBERCULOSIS. New cases and Mortality during 1939.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5	1			1				
10			1	2				
15		3				1		
20	3				1			
25			1	1				
35	1			1	2			
45	1			1				1
55								
65 and upwards								
	6	3	2	6	3	1		1
	9		8		4		1	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1940. (Notified cases only).

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED													Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital
	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Smallpox															
Scarlet Fever	28			1	1	3	13	6	2	1	1				25
Diphtheria	21			1	3	2	10	2		3				2	19
Enteric Fever	1									1					1
Measles	194	8	12	20	29	34	79	9	3						
Whooping Cough	6	2				1	3								
Pneumonia	11			1		1			1	3		4	1	1	1
Puerperal pyrexia															
Cerebro-spinal fever															
Acute poliomyelitis	3		1				1	1							3
Encephalitis lethargica															
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	5													1
Erysipelas	1												1		
Totals	270	15	13	23	33	41	106	18	6	8	1	4	2	3	50